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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

September 16, 2003

Bobover Yeshiva Bnei Zion
4206-15th avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219
Contact Person: Heshie Dembitzer
Phone (718) 851-4000
Fax (718) 972-5305
E-mail- YOUR1234@aol.com

CC Docket No 02-6
FCC
Letter of Appeal
Re Funding Request Number-746325
471 Application Number 291074

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing this letter with sincere hope that you can help me resolve this issue in our school's favor.

In mid August I filed BEAR FORMS for the five companies that I was approved for as per my Funding Commitment Letter for Funding Year2002. All the companies sent me back the signed fax except for our biggest company that is Verizon. They called to inform me that they don't seem to see that we filed a Form 486 for their company. I answered them that we most certainly did and got out the folder to fax the 486 Confirmation letter over to them. But to my utter dismay I looked at my Form 486 that was filed less than two months after we received our Funding Commitment Decision Letter, and saw that all the companies were listed except Verizon. I took out our Funding Commitment Letter to see what could have happened and realized that four out of the five companies were on the first page of the letter and only Verizon was on the second page. I presumably forgot to turn the page to record Verizon, and only discovered this mistake almost a full year later. I immediately filed a Form 486 for Verizon and received my Form 486 Notification Letter with a changed service start date because of the 120-DAY 486 DEADLINE policy. This means that our school lost \$29,485.41 because of my mistake! Our total reimbursement amount would have been \$40,285.41, and after the changed service start date it is \$10,800.00.

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We have been with the Schools and Libraries since Year 1, and we have benefited tremendously from their services. We are currently paying astronomical bills to Verizon and we were eagerly awaiting to be reimbursed for Year 5 when this mess came up. I know that I made a mistake, and I'm only asking if you can be so kind to issue a waiver on this rule for this particular FRN, so we can cover these large expenses.

If there is any further information that you would need, please e-mail it to me at the above e-mail address.

Your consideration to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Heshie Dembitzer
Administrator